

The Known Range of *Phlox wilcoxiana*

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When the writer first described *Phlox wilcoxiana*, the general range was stated as being on the Gulf coastal plain of Texas. At that time the complete distribution was still not known. Subsequent studies have revealed that although the greatest abundance centers around the type locality, a few specimens have been collected beyond this region. These were from stations either far to the west or to the east and do not necessarily imply the presence of the species in intermediate positions within these extremes.

Phlox wilcoxiana is entirely a Texas species. The area on which it occurs in greatest abundance, when compared in size with some of the smaller adjoining states, is found to roughly equal that of the state of Mississippi.

The flowering period is usually in March and April, but favorable seasons occasionally produce flowers as early as the middle of February, and continued mild weather may permit a few plants to remain until the latter part of June. The type locality was revisited in the summer of 1929 and two good specimens found in moist shaded situations. All plants of this species on exposed slopes were fully matured. When in their prime, the plants cover many miles of sandy hillsides in a glow of red, which is, aside from other characters, a recognizable feature of the species.

Distribution data is based upon two sources; the one is first hand field experience distributed over parts of five years, and the other data is taken from notations on specimens contained in the herbarium of the United States National Museum, the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden, the herbarium of the University of Illinois, and from sheets of the writer's private collection.

Neuces and Kleberg Counties mark the absolute southern limit of the species. From here the line goes northwest to Frio County, then turns northeast through the southeastern corner of Medina, Bexar, Comal, Hays, and Travis Counties. Here it turns northward to southern Milam County and then runs directly east to the northern end of Jasper County. From this point the eastern limit is marked by a line which runs due south until it is terminated by the Gulf Coast.

Within this range, the focus of distribution, based on frequency, is centered on Gonzales, eastern Caldwell, Bastrop, Fayette, Lavaca, and Victoria Counties. In the accompanying map, each point corresponds to a collected specimen. From this focus the number of specimens encountered diminishes more rapidly westward than it does eastward, the tapering seemingly being more gradual in this direction.



Map showing the distribution of *Phlox wilcoxiana*, Bogush

A single specimen collected in 1889 by Nealley at Peña in Brewster County constitutes the only record this far west. One collection at Covington, Louisiana by Bro. Anect in 1919 and another at New Orleans by J. F. Joor in 1887 complete the record for Louisiana. Of those specimens recorded for the southern states, bearing a resemblance to *Phlox wilcoxiana*, all have been ruled out as forms of *Phlox drummondii* with the exception of three additional ones from Florida. One collected in 1910 from Orange City bears no collector's name. The same is true for one from Lake City in 1896. The third is that of Hitchcock in 1900 in Jacksonville.

Specimens examined:

TEXAS. Without definite locality—Berlandier 2526; Ridell '42; U. S. Nat. Herb. 44635; Lindheimer '43; Lindheimer '44; Lindheimer '48; Short '42.

Brewster County—Nealley 307, Peña.

Victoria County—Tracy 9436, Victoria; Lindheimer 425, Victoria; Lindheimer 427, Victoria; Eggert '00, Victoria.

Walker County—Dixon 204, Huntsville.

Gonzales County—Bogusch 1495, Gonzales; Bogusch 435, Gonzales; Bogusch 1191, Ottine; Bogusch 1475, Ottine; Bogusch & Molby 2727, Ottine; Bogusch & Molby 4329, Ottine.

Bastrop County—Tharp 1959, Bastrop; Bogusch & Molby 2964, Bastrop.

Lavaca County—Fisher 85, Hallettsville.

Colorado County—Howell 355, Columbus.

De Witte County—Bray 137, Cuero; Marlott '96, Cuero.

Harris County—Wooton '93, Houston.

Austin County—Wurzlow '91, Industry.

Washington County—Lindheimer '39, Mill Creek.

Llano County—Lindheimer '48, Llano.

Wood County—Eggert '00, Granbury.

Florida. Fla. Agri. Col. 1266, Lake City; Mo. Bot. Gard. 850048, Orange City; Hitchcock '00, Jacksonville.

Louisiana. Bro. Anect. 44, Covington; Joor '87, New Orleans.

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